

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 23 2015

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 524

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 524, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

CHAIRPERSON OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

G.M. No. 524 RANDALL IWASE,
for a term to expire 6-30-2020,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee has reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by the nominee and finds Randall Iwase to possess the requisite qualifications to be nominated to the Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination of Randall Iwase from the Office of the Governor; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Transportation; Ironworkers Stabilization Fund; International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 142; Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Ulupono Initiative; Blue Planet Foundation; Young Brothers, Limited; Capitol Consultants of Hawaii, LLP; and seventeen individuals.

Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Iwase's background, experience, and commitment to public service qualify him for appointment as the Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission. Your Committee notes that Mr. Iwase has extensive experience in the public sector. Mr. Iwase began his



career in the Department of the Attorney General where his division provided legal counsel to various state agencies, including the Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Iwase served three years on the Honolulu City Council, where he served as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, and later served ten years in the Hawaii State Senate. While in the Senate, Mr. Iwase was the Chair of the Senate Committee on Planning, Land, and Water Use Management and a Majority Whip. More recently, Mr. Iwase served as the Chair of the Hawaii Labor and Industrial Relations Appeals Board from 2000 through 2006 and Chair of the Hawaii State Tax Review Commission from 2011 through 2012.

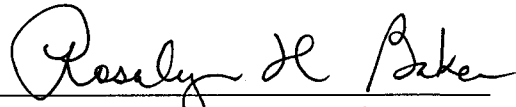
Your Committee further finds that Mr. Iwase recognizes and supports the State's energy policies and goals and acknowledges the regulatory responsibilities that the Public Utilities Commission must fulfill in support of those goals. Through his years of public service, Mr. Iwase has gained a thorough understanding of public policy and acknowledges the historical importance of the decisions that the Public Utilities Commission must make in upcoming years. This insight will be critical in light of the major dockets currently before the Public Utilities Commission, including the merger application recently filed by Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc., and NextEra Energy, Inc.

Your Committee notes that Mr. Iwase's varied legal and political experience will be an invaluable complement to the policy and technical expertise of the other Public Utilities Commissioners and therefore recommends that Mr. Iwase be appointed as Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission based on his knowledge, background, and dedication to serving the public.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Protection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rosalyn H. Baker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN
Advise and Consent

Governor's Message No.:* GM 524	Committee Referral: CPN	Date: 2/17/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	6	0	0	1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">Original File with Committee Report</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes